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|  Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/759,848 | FORTI ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Troy Chambers | 3641 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS**. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to _____.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11 and 13-15.
3. The drawings filed on 15 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Fessenmaier on 2/10/05 and 2/22/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Rewrite claim 10 as follows:

10. A blowgun having a barrel and a mouthpiece movably coupled to the barrel, wherein a projectile is manually loaded into the barrel through the mouthpiece when the barrel is in a first position relative to the mouthpiece, and wherein the projectile is propelled from the barrel by a blast from a user's mouth through the mouthpiece when the barrel is in a second position relative to the mouthpiece and wherein each of the mouthpiece and the barrel have an opening, and wherein the openings from a continuous channel when the barrel is in a first position relative to the mouthpiece, and wherein the openings do not form a continuous channel when the barrel is in the second position relative to the mouthpiece.

Cancel claim 2.

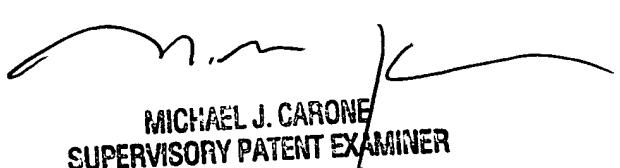
Rewrite claim 13 as follows:

13. The blowgun of claim 11 wherein the projectile comprises a soft material that retains a fluid on an outer surface of the material.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not disclose a blowgun having a mouthpiece and a barrel, each including an opening and is moveable with respect to a barrel from a first position to a second position as claimed. The examiners amendment was made to define over a typical "spitball" shooter comprising a bendable straw or possibly two straws connected together.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Troy Chambers at 703 308-5870 or his supervisory Michael Carone at telephone number 703 306-4198.



MICHAEL J. CARONE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER